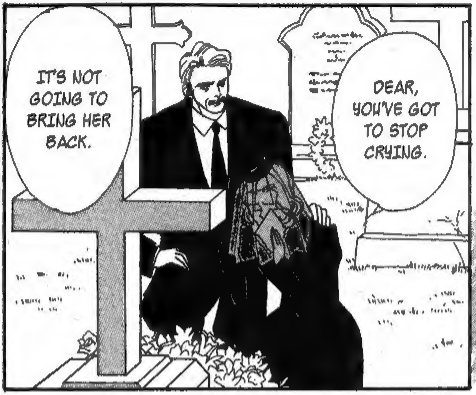
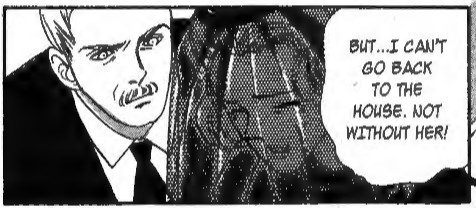
第3話／Daughter
Petshop of Horrors
ペットショップ オブ ホラーズ

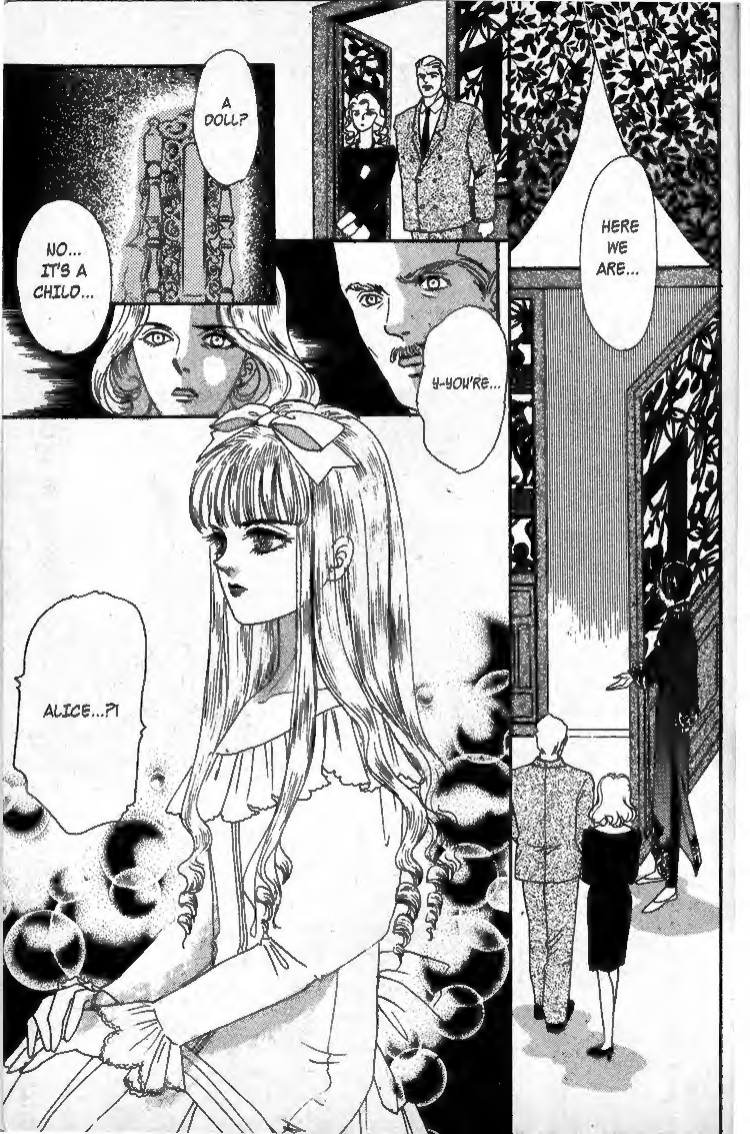

IT'S NOT GOING TO BRING HER BACK.
DEAR, YOU'VE GOT TO STOP CRYING.


BUT...I CAN'T GO BACK TO THE HOUSE. NOT WITHOUT HER!

I HAVE AN IDEA. LET'S GET A PET-- A CAT OR MAYBE A DOG!
YES, SOMETHING CUTE!! IT'LL TAKE OUR MINDS OFF ALICE.

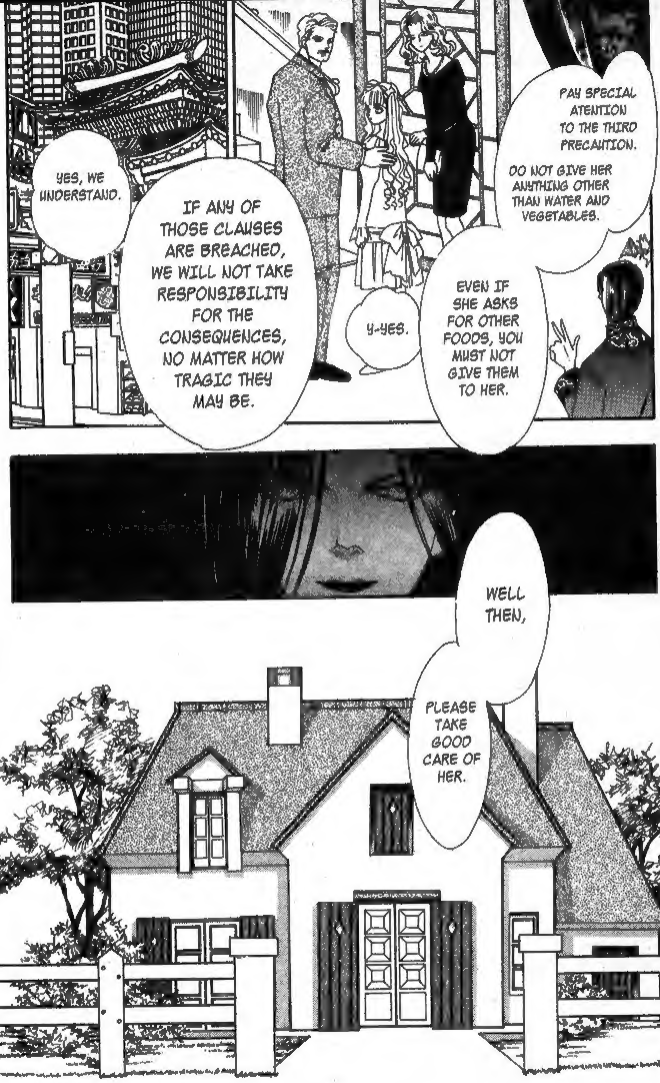
WELCOME TO COUNT D'S PET SHOP...
THIS IS CHINATOWN...
A PLACE WHERE MYSTERY IS AROUND EVERY CORNER AND YOUR HEART'S DESIRE BEHIND EVERY DOOR...
I'M SURE WE CAN FIND THE PERFECT PET FOR YOU.
...

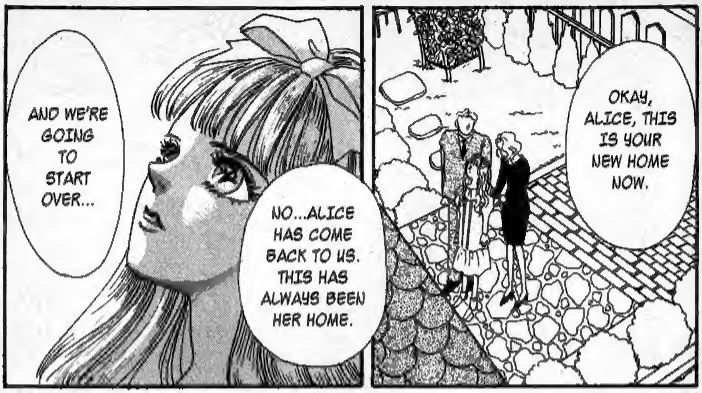
ALICE...
SHE WAS LIKE AN ANGEL...
YOUR DAUGHTER... THAT'S VERY UNFORTUNATE...
WE JUST LOST OUR DAUGHTER RECENTLY...
"ALICE."
WELL THEN...
I MAY HAVE SOMETHING TO INTEREST YOU.
PLEASE, FOLLOW ME TO THE BACK.
COUNT 8


HERE WE ARE...
A DOLL?
NO... IT'S A CHILD...
Y-YOU'RE...
ALICE...?!

WH-WHY IS ALICE HERE...?!
ARE WE DREAMING?!
NO, SHE LOOKS JUST LIKE...
SHE'S JUST LIKE OUR ALICE.
I BELIEVE YOU'RE MISTAKEN.
SHE IS A RABBIT.
A RABBIT?!
YES, A RARE SPECIES THAT ALMOST DIED OUT ON A DESERTED ISLAND OFF THE COAST OF AUSTRALIA.
WE ARE A PET SHOP.
WE DO NOT HAVE ANYTHING OTHER THAN PETS.
!!

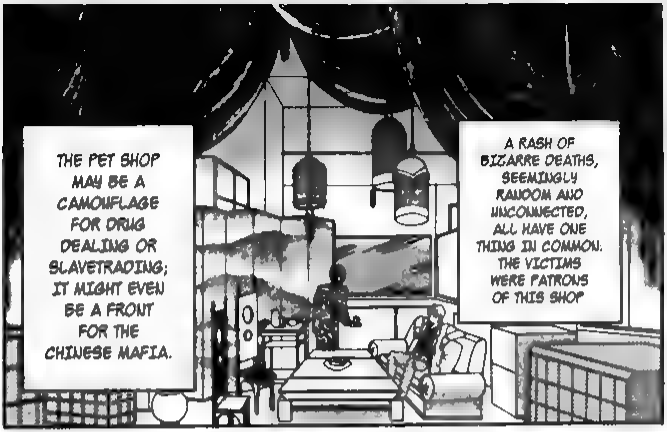
I'LL KEEP IT A SECRET!
NO, SELL ME THIS RABBIT!!
PLEASE! GIVE ME--
I'LL PAY YOU ANYTHING.
YES, I UNDER-STAND.
SHE IS A RABBIT THEN...
I GUESS SO...
NOW, IF YOU WILL, PLEASE LOOK OVER THIS CONTRACT.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PURCHASE.
DO NOT SHOW HER TO ANYONE.
BURN THE INCENSE YOU RECEIVE ON A DAILY BASIS.
FEED HER FRESH WATER AND VEGETABLES ONLY.
OH YES, AND PLEASE BE SURE TO READ THE THREE SPECIAL CLAUSES...


YES, WE UNDERSTAND.
IF ANY OF THOSE CLAUSES ARE BREACHED, WE WILL NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONSEQUENCES, NO MATTER HOW TRAGIC THEY MAY BE.
Y-YES.
EVEN IF SHE ASKS FOR OTHER FOODS, YOU MUST NOT GIVE THEM TO HER.
DO NOT GIVE HER ANYTHING OTHER THAN WATER AND VEGETABLES.
PAY SPECIAL ATENTION TO THE THIRD PRECAUTION.
WELL THEN,
PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER.


AND WE'RE GOING TO START OVER...
NO...ALICE HAS COME BACK TO US. THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN HER HOME.
OKAY, ALICE, THIS IS YOUR NEW HOME NOW.

...AS REAL PARENTS TO OUR CHILD.

YOU HAVE GOOD TIMING. YOU ALWAYS COME AROUND TEATIME.
CHEE!
OH, IT'S YOU, OFFICER
WELCOME--
HEY, YOU'RE THE WEIRDO DRINKING TEA ALL THE TIME.
HOW'S BUSINESS?
!!!!
HEE HEE! BRISK, AS USUAL, OFFICER.
YOU'RE GOING DOWN. ONE OF THESE DAYS YOUR DOORS ARE GOING TO BE CLOSED FOR GOOD!
LAUGH WHILE YOU CAN, O..


THE PET SHOP MAY BE A CAMOUFLAGE FOR DRUG DEALING OR SLAVETRADING; IT MIGHT EVEN BE A FRONT FOR THE CHINESE MAFIA.
A RASH OF BIZARRE DEATHS, SEEMINGLY RANDOM AND UNCONNECTED, ALL HAVE ONE THING IN COMMON. THE VICTIMS WERE PATRONS OF THIS SHOP

BUT AS LONG AS THE EVIDENCE IS SO THIN, WE CAN'T SHUT HIM DOWN COPS ARE WEIRD ABOUT CHINATOWN, AND IT'S GOING TO TAKE SOME SERIOUS PROOF TO GET THEM TO MOVE
EVEN FROM THE OUTSIDE, YOU CAN TELL THEY TRAFFIC IN BLACK-MARKET ANIMALS. .
HUH?

YOU'RE THE SUGAR FREAK, NOT ME!!
MY GOODNESS, SO PICKY ABOUT WHAT YOU LIKE...
BLACK! MAKE IT BLACK!
I JUST PUT SOME SUGAR IN THE JASMINE TEA. IS THERE A PROBLEM?
ARE YOU NUTS?! ALL YOUR CANDY ISN'T SWEET ENOUGH FOR YOU?
BLECH! WHAT THE HECK IS WRONG WITH THIS?!

HM?
HEY, THESE CAKES ARE PRETTY GOOD..
THEY ARE, AREN'T THEY? THEY'RE MADE WITH EXTRA BROWN SUGAR
WHY DON'T YOU TRY THIS TAPIOCA SOUFFLE?
IT'S BEST WHILE WARM
REALLY? LET'S SEE...
CRAP
I'M FALLING FOR HIS CHARM...
. .OR MAYBE I'M JUST HUNGRY...

OH, SIT STILL, ALICE
ISN'T THIS RIBBON THE CUTEST THING?
COME ON, DEAR. LET'S BRUSH YOUR HAIR NOW
ALICE?
ALICE?
DIDN'T THEIR DAUGHTER PASS AWAY LAST MONTH?
ALICE?
A RABBIT?
ACTUALLY, I HEARD THEY BOUGHT A PET [illegible] NAMED IT AFTER THEIR DAUGHTER.
WELL, I JUST HOPE THE RABBIT DOESN'T FOLLOW IN HER NAMESAKE'S FOOTSTEPS!
SHUSH!

WHAT?
MAA...
...
HOW DOES IT TASTE? GOOD?
HERE YOU ARE, ALICE.
MAA .. MA....
DARLING, COME QUICK!!
DARLING!
ALICE, PLEASE SAY IT AGAIN.
YES! YES, I'M YOUR MOTHER!
MAMA!
DID YOU JUST...??
ALICE...?!
MA-MA!

ALICE!
DA-YY...
DADDY...
WHAT?
ALICE.
SHE SPOKE TO ME!
OH MY! THANK HEAVENS!
WHAT? YOU WANT SOME OF THOSE?
WHAT IS IT, ALICE?
A--
DA--
A--
A--

WAIT, THE CONTRACT SAID NOT TO FEED HER ANYTHING BUT VEGETABLES AND WATER.
YOU WANT SOME CANDY, RIGHT?
OH, BUT THAT CAN'T BE ENOUGH NUTRIENTS FOR HER.
BUT SHE'S A RABBIT--
DON'T BE SILLY
CAN RABBITS SPEAK? CAN THEY?
MA... MA...
SHE'S A HUMAN CHILD!
BUT THE SHOPKEEPER SAID...
IT'S ONLY A LITTLE BIT. IT'S HARMLESS.

DADDY...
BUT...
DAD-DY!
FINE...
BUT JUST ONE BITE.
JUST THIS ONCE.
HERE YOU ARE, ALICE.

ENJOY...
EXCUSE ME...
WOULD YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW WHAT CAUSED THIS YOUNG GIRL'S DEATH?
ALICE HAYWARD?
SHE HAD SUCH A SAD, LONELY FUNERAL...
BUT IT COULDN'T BE HELPED.

ALICE .
MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T EAT ANY-MORE FOR TODAY
ALICE..
PLEASE? IT'S NOT GOOD FOR YOU IF YOU KEEP EATING LIKE THAT, AND--
AHH!
GRRAR!

ALICE HAD THE FACE OF AN ANGEL.
WITH THE HEART OF THE DEVIL.

I TOLD YOU IT WASN'T A GOOD IDEA!
OH.. ALICE..
WH-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
AT THE TIME YOU THOUGHT--
PLEASE... STOP!
GRRRR!
ALICE?!
DOES YOUR STOMACH HURT?
ALICE?! WHAT'S WRONG?
UGH.
UHHHH ..

ALICE?!
AH..
WAHHH...
ALICE?!

A
AA
AA
AA
AAA
AA
AAA
AA
!!!
GRRAA!
ALI--
OH NO, ALICE!!

MA
MA-MA
MA
MA
MA

HUH?
HEY, IT'S A RABBIT!
WOW, IT'S SO CUTE!
I WONDER IF HE'LL EAT THIS!
APPLE
HERE, YOU CAN HAVE SOME MORE
HEY, THERE'S MORE OVER THERE.
LOOK!
HERE YOU GO.
WHOA!
HEY, HE ATE IT!

A PACK OF WILD RABBITS?
WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?!

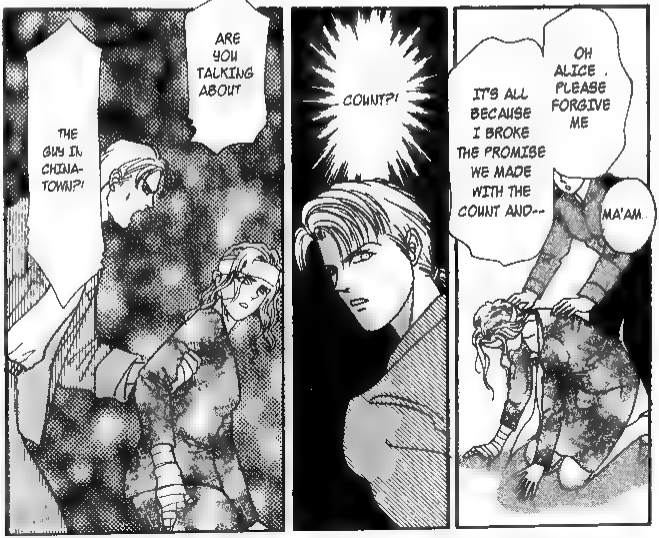
HELLO, FOURTEENTH PRECINCT.
RRRRRR
WHAT? YOUR KID GOT BITTEN BY A RABBIT AT THE PARK?!
I'M SORRY, BUT YOU CAN'T BE CALLING US EVERY TIME SOMETHING--
WHAT?!
NOT JUST ONE OR TWO RABBITS..
WHAT DID YOU SAY?! MORE THAN YOU CAN COUNT?!
IN THE SOUTH HILLS AREA?!
WHAT?! THE SUPERMARKET IS BEING RAIDED BY A PACK OF RABBITS?!
A KID GOT ATTACKED BY A RABBIT--
YES, THIS IS THE POLICE
RRRRR
WHA?! YOUR GUARD DOG WAS KILLED AND EATEN BY RABBITS?!
DID YOU SAY THE RABBITS ARE MULTIPLYING?!

WHAT THE--?!
WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?
CALL THE PARAMEDICS AND THE ZOOS!"
C-CAPTAIN! LOOK AT THAT!

BABIES ?!
. .CHEWING THEIR WAY OUT?!
SIR, THE RABBITS ARE BLANKETING THE CITY, MULTIPLYING EVERYWHERE
AND THE NEWBORNS FEED ON THE MOTHER AND GROW AT AN INCREDIBLE RATE, THEN GIVE BIRTH TO ANOTHER BATCH AND..
IT'S MORE LIKE CELLS REPLICATING THAN GIVING BIRTH...
THIS IS A NIGHTMARE! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
HOW CAN THIS BE HAPPENING?!

IF THEY KEEP THIS UP, THEY'LL COVER THE CITY IN A DAY-- TWO, TOPS!
CALL THE FIRE TRUCKS!
SIR, I'VE TRIED USING RIFLES, BUT THERE ARE JUST TOO MANY!
IT'S NO GOOD, SIR, WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH!
CAPTURE THEM WITH THE NETS!
WAIT!
EITHER WAY, WE NEED TO CLEAR THE CIVILIANS OUT OF THE AREA...
HOW ABOUT WE CALL IN THE NATIONAL GUARD?!
MAKE A CIRCLE OF FIRE AND LURE THEM INTO IT SO--
IN THE MIDDLE OF A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBOR-HOOD?!

WAIT . DON'T KILL MY CHILD.
THAT'S MY CHILD...
OH, ALICE
PLEASE DON'T KILL MY ALICE.
SHE'S THE FIRST VICTIM IN SOUTH HILLS.
SHE MIGHT BE IN SHOCK SHE WATCHED HER HUSBAND GET DEVOURED BY THESE THINGS!


ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT
THE GUY IN CHINA-TOWN?!
COUNT?!
OH ALICE . PLEASE FORGIVE ME
IT'S ALL BECAUSE I BROKE THE PROMISE WE MADE WITH THE COUNT AND--
MA'AM

COUNT OF!
OW.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO MANHANDLE ME!
JUST SHUT UP AND COME WITH ME
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SOLD THE HAYWARD FAMILY THAT MONSTER, RIGHT?
WE ALREADY HAVE THE CONTRACT AS EVIDENCE!!
YES, I DID SELL THEM A RABBIT...
[redacted]T I WONDER WHICH ONE OF THESE RABBITS IT IS?

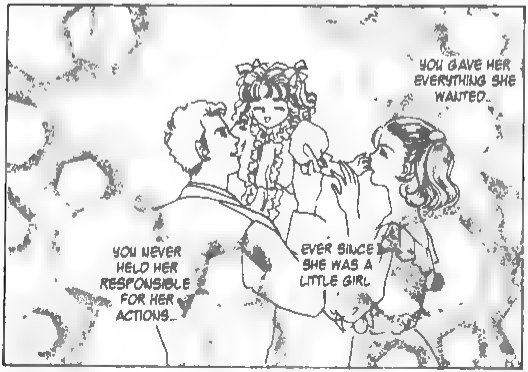
JUST DO SOMETHING ABOUT THOSE THINGS!
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE I'M THE PIED PIPER. I CAN'T JUST LEAD THEM AWAY.
GAH...
CAN'T YOU AT LEAST FIGURE OUT WHAT THEIR WEAKNESS IS?
EACH OTHER, HUH?
YES-- EASILY OVERPOPULATED-- BUT IT'S ALSO IN THEIR NATURE TO EAT EACH OTHER WHEN THEY REACH THE PEAK OF THEIR REPRODUCTION.
JUST ONE ISLAND? THEN WASN'T THE ISLAND--
BECAUSE OF THEIR TENDENCY TO PROPAGATE, THEY ONLY LIVED ON A CERTAIN ISLAND...
THOSE RABBITS ARE LIKE KOALAS AND KANGAROOS-- THEY'RE MARSUPIALS.

AND SO WHEN DO THEY REACH THAT POINT?
HM, IT WOULD BE WHEN THIS CITY--
NO, WHEN THIS ENTIRE CONTINENT HAS BEEN PICKED CLEAN.
JUST LIKE SHE HAS...
OR ELSE, AS IN THE STORY OF THE PIED PIPER, THE WHOLE CONTINENT WOULD LOSE ITS CHILDREN...
THOUGH IF I GET RID OF THE RABBITS BEFORE THAT HAPPENS, PERHAPS THE PRESIDENT WOULD REWARD ME IN SOME WAY...

WHY DID YOU BREAK THE CONTRACT? WHY DID YOU IGNORE HER DIET?
OH
BECAUSE
BECAUSE
MADAM
COUNT
SHE BEGGED ME FOR IT
SHE CRIED AND PLEADED FOR THE CANDY

AND SO I TOLD HER "ONLY ONE BITE ." AND GAVE HER THE COOKIE..
SHE SMILED LIKE AN ANGEL!
AND HER SMILE WAS SO BRIGHT...
OH...
HOW DEEP A MOTHER'S LOVE CAN BE...

THAT'S HOW YOU KILLED THE REAL ALICE TOO, ISN'T IT?


YOU GAVE HER EVERYTHING SHE WANTED...
EVER SINCE SHE WAS A LITTLE GIRL
YOU NEVER HELD HER RESPONSIBLE FOR HER ACTIONS...

AND HOW COULD A CHILD LIKE THAT GROW UP?
MAMA, P-PLEASE
G-GIVE ME M-MY DRUGS
JUST THIS ONCE
I NEED IT
MA
MAMA

AND SHE WOULD CRY AND SAY SHE NEEDED THE DRUGS...
OH
SHE WAS IN SO MUCH PAIN

I DIDN'T WANT HER TO HATE ME

I JUST LOVED HER SO MUCH

JUST ONCE...

あああ
PARENTS RAISE THEIR CHILDREN BY GIVING THEM A PART OF THEMSELVES
EATING ITS WAY OUT OF ITS MOTHER'S WOMB
THAT RABBIT WAS BORN
CHILDREN BORN FROM DEEP AND UNRESTRAINED AFFECTIONS
ARE BORN FROM THEIR OWN PARENTS' BLOOD

A MESSAGE FROM THE HELI-COPTERS...
THE FRONT LINE OF RABBITS HAVE REACHED THE HIGHWAY
AT THIS RATE, THEY'LL REACH THE CENTER OF THE CITY
HOW MANY RABBITS ARE THERE?
HOW MANY TOTAL?
I'M NOT SURE
MAYBE 50,000, MAYBE 60,000
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BURN THEM WITH FLAME-THROWERS!
WE CAN'T LET THEM SPREAD TO OTHER AREAS!
THAT MEANS THE NEXT TIME THEY MULTIPLY, THEIR NUMBERS ARE GONNA RISE TO 200,000?!
YES, SIR!
WHAT ???!
PLEASE, WAIT
WAIT

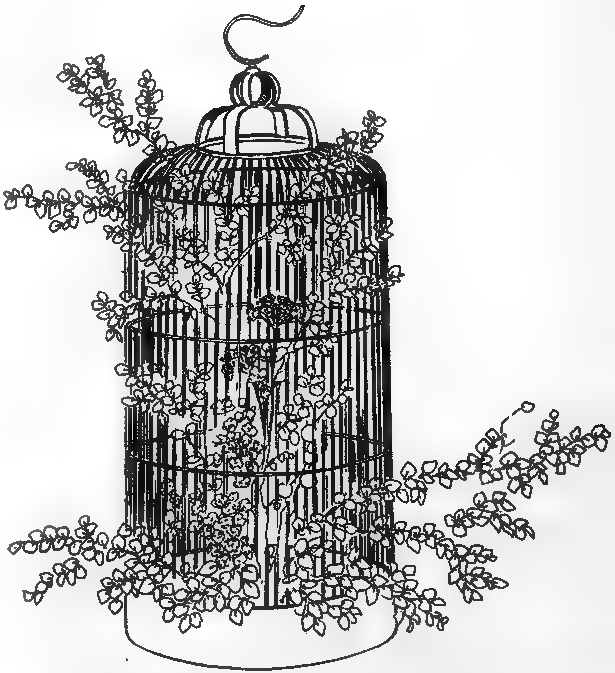
KEEP
MA AM COME BACK
P-PA IF SHE'S A DRUG ADDICT OR A MURDERER
STILL
SHE'S STILL MY DAUGHTER
KEEP
M-IT'S TOO LATE

KEE
WHAT
WHAT HAPPENED?!
THE RABBITS ARE JUST FALLING OVER.
THE ONES NEAR THE HIGHWAY HAVE STOPPED IN THEIR TRACKS
THE RABBITS ARE ALL DYING.

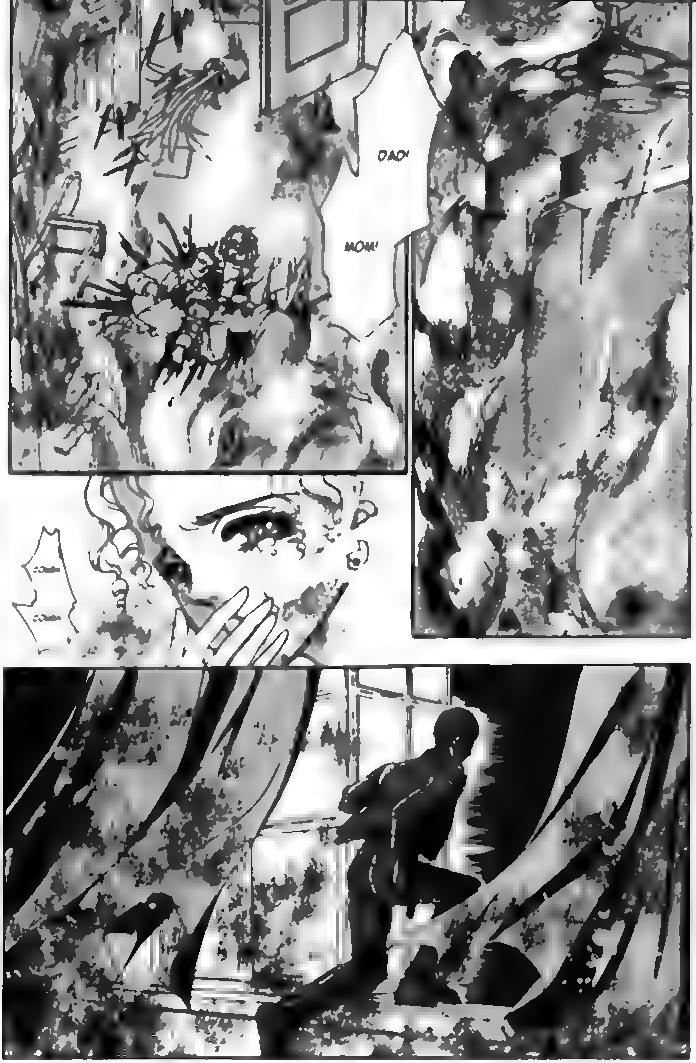
IT'S THE PIED PIPER'S FLUTE..
O! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
THE RABBITS ALL APPEAR TO BE DYING, SIR!!
THEY ARE THE TENTH GENERATION OF KIDS.
THE POISON INGESTED BY THE FIRST-GENERATION ALICE FINALLY TOOK EFFECT...
POISON?
POTATO CHIPS
CHOCOLATE, CANDY, POTATO CHIPS, JELLY BEANS
...IS TOXIC TO THE RABBITS-- THEY HAVE NO IMMUNE SYSTEM.
THE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF THE SNACKS..

ALICE ATE THE POTION...
TO HER YOUNG...
AND SO ON TO THE
YOUTH GENERATION,
TOOK HIS TOO...

WHY DON'T WE CONTINUE THIS DISCUSSION AT THE SHOP?
IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR SOME TEA.
D YOU KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN, DIDN'T YOU?
MMMMM... AND IT'S TIME FOR SOME CHOCOLATE CUSTARD PIE AS WELL .



第4話 Dreizehn
Petshop of Horrors


DAD!
MOM!

WHAT?!
AIEEEEE!

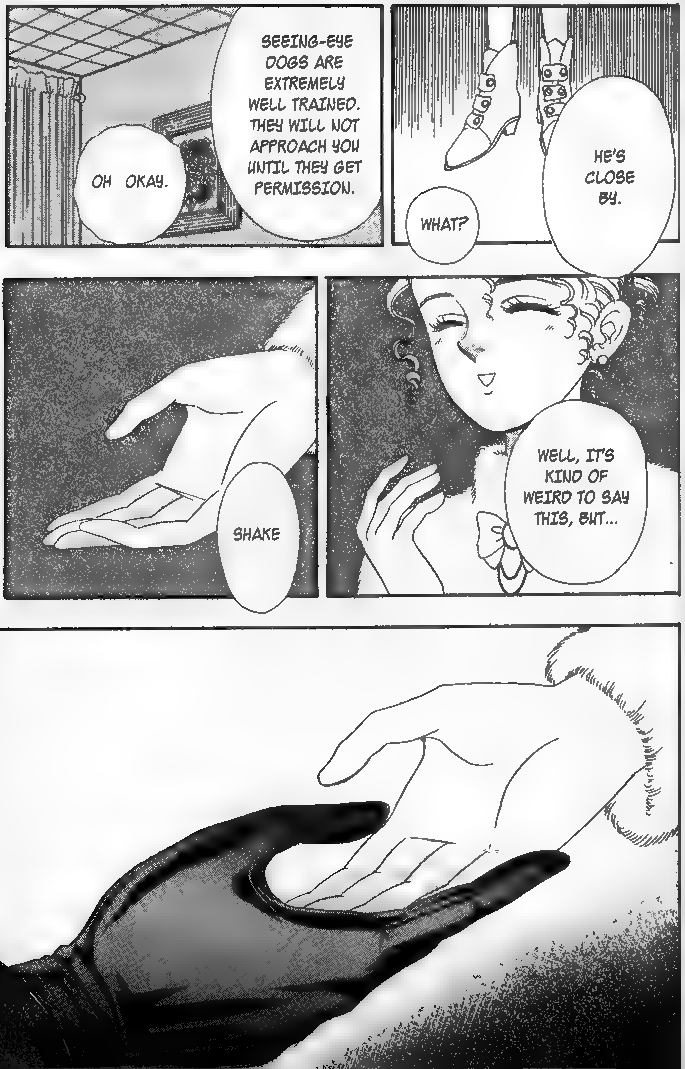
COUNT! YOU REMEMBER ME?
BUT OF COURSE! I NEVER FORGET A CUSTOMER.
I BELIEVE YOU PURCHASED A PAIR OF CANARIES AT THE TIME.
OH, I FEEL SO TERRIBLE...
OUR HOUSE BURNED DOWN, AND SO THE BIRDS--
WELL, IF IT ISN'T MISS KAREN.
IT'S SO VERY GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

YES, AND THE FIRE STOLE SOMETHING ELSE-- MY SIGHT ..
I AM VERY SORRY ABOUT THE LOSS OF YOUR PARENTS...
I SAW THE STORY ABOUT IT IN THE PAPER.
BURGLARY, MURDER, AND, AS IF THAT WEREN'T TERRIBLE ENOUGH, A FIRE.
I AM EDWARD. NICE TO MEET YOU.
HE WORKS-- WORKED-- WITH MY FATHER.
HE'S MY LATE MOTHER'S COUSIN
AND YOU ARE?
IT'S NOT HEALTHY FOR YOU TO BE HOME ALONE ALL THE TIME.
I THOUGHT A PET MIGHT BE JUST THE THING TO TAKE KAREN'S MIND OFF ALL OF THIS.

EDWARD
OH, COME ON, KAREN! WE'RE FAMILY! WE HAVE TO WATCH OUT FOR OUR OWN!
EVER SINCE THE TRAGEDY, EDWARD HAS BEEN TAKING CARE OF ME...
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A SEEING-EYE DOG?
I SEE. WELL, IF MISS KAREN HAS LOST HER VISION...

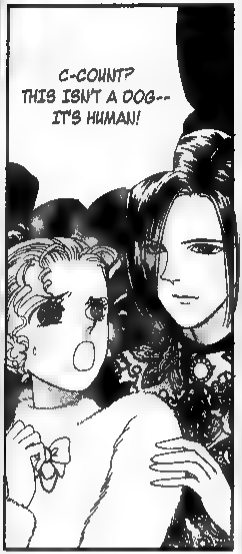
A SEEING-EYE DOG?
AT A PET SHOP?!
THIS IS CHINATOWN
WE HAVE ALL MANNER OF CREATURES FOR SALE
WOW, IF YOU WILL, KAREN, PLEASE FOLLOW ME TO THE BACK
WAIT-- I'LL GO, TOO
DON'T WORRY
THE ANIMAL WILL BETTER RECOGNIZE ITS MASTER IF THEY INITIALLY MEET ALONE
BUT

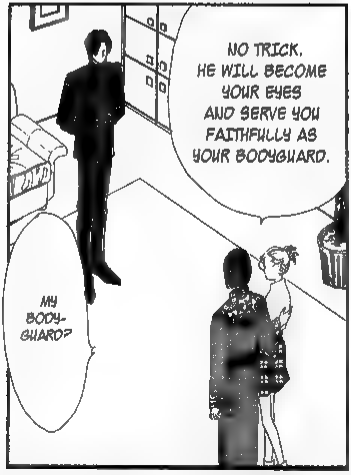
I UNDER-STAND.
HE SAYS THE CRIMINAL MIGHT STILL BE AFTER ME, SO--
I'M SORRY, COUNT. EDWARD IS JUST WORRIED ABOUT ME.
THE POLICE STILL HAVEN'T CAUGHT THE MAN WHO ATTACKED MY PARENTS...
THIS WAY
WHERE'S THE DOG?
IT'S QUIET.

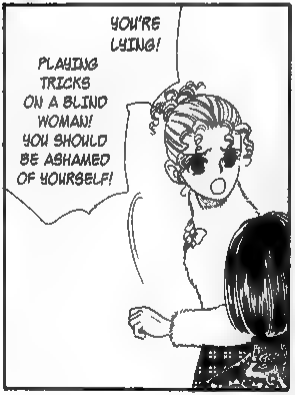

SEEING-EYE DOGS ARE EXTREMELY WELL TRAINED. THEY WILL NOT APPROACH YOU UNTIL THEY GET PERMISSION.
OH OKAY.
HE'S CLOSE BY.
WHAT?
WELL, IT'S KIND OF WEIRD TO SAY THIS, BUT...
SHAKE

AIEEEEEEE!

NO, I ASSURE YOU, HE IS A DOG.
HE USED TO BE A MILITARY DOG IN GERMANY.
HE'S A DOBERMAN


C-COUNT? THIS ISN'T A DOG-- IT'S HUMAN!


NO TRICK. HE WILL BECOME YOUR EYES AND SERVE YOU FAITHFULLY AS YOUR BODYGUARD.
MY BODY-GUARD?


YOU'RE LYING!
PLAYING TRICKS ON A BLIND WOMAN! YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF!

JA.
HE'D DIE... FOR ME?
HE WILL PROTECT YOU WITH HIS VERY LIFE.
HE WILL OBEY HIS MASTER'S EVERY COMMAND.
BUT-BUT HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW ME.
THIS DOG WILL KEEP YOU SAFE. HE WILL PROTECT YOU EVEN IN THE DEPTHS OF HELL.
THE CRIMINAL MAY BE AFTER YOUR LIFE AS WELL.
ALTHOUGH YOUR EYES FAIL YOU NOW, YOU ARE A WITNESS TO THE CRIME.
YOU SAID THAT THE CRIMINAL WHO KILLED YOUR PARENTS IS STILL ON THE LOOSE

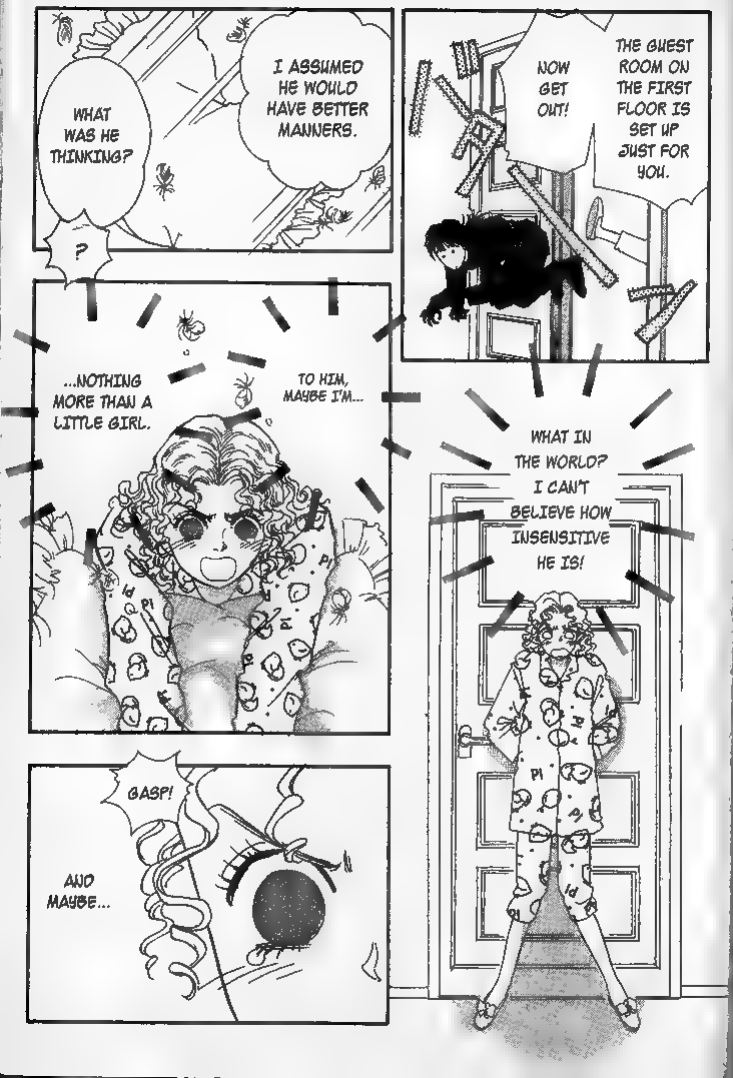
OH, HELLO, LIEUTENANT
HEY, WASN'T THAT JUST KAREN SCHNEIDER?
THE BLIND CINDERELLA WHO INHERITED A FORTUNE THREE MONTHS AGO...
DID HER FAMILY HAVE THAT MUCH MONEY?
FROM WHAT I HEARD, HER FATHER WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF A PATENT APPLICATION THAT COULD MAKE THE FAMILY MILLIONS.
HEY...YOU BETTER NOT HAVE SOLD HER ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR FREAK CREATURES!
AWW, OFFICER, WHERE'S THE TRUST?
I JUST GAVE HER A SEEING-EYE DOG THAT CAN ALSO PROTECT HER.

I DON'T BLAME HER. SHE WATCHED AS HER PARENTS WERE MURDERED...AND BARELY ESCAPED HER HOUSE BURNING DOWN.
DO YOU KNOW IF HER VISION LOSS IS PERMANENT?
THE TRAUMA?
ACTUALLY, I DON'T KNOW ALL THE DETAILS.
BUT THE DOCTORS THINK THE BLINDNESS IS JUST A PSYCHOSOMATIC RESPONSE TO THE TRAUMA.
I DON'T THINK I'D WANT TO SEE ANY MORE OF SUCH AN UGLY WORLD EITHER.
WE'RE HOPING IT'S JUST A TEMPORARY THING.
ONCE SHE CAN SEE AGAIN, SHE CAN I.D. WHOEVER DID THIS.

MY, MY ..
MISS KAREN!
I EXPECTED YOU TO BRING HOME SOMETHING MUCH.. SMALLER.
WELL, BUT HE'S QUITE THE IMPRESSIVE PUP.
WELL ..
I.. UH..
EDWARD
I'LL BE LEAVING FOR CHICAGO TOMORROW FOR A SEMINAR, AND NOW I WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT LEAVING YOU ALONE.
BY THE WAY, WHAT'S HIS NAME?

DREIZEHN.
..HUH?
OH...UH, HE'S CALLED, "DREIZEHN."
IT'S GERMAN FOR "THIRTEEN."
I...SEE. AND WHAT DOES HE EAT?
OH, I CAN HANDLE THIS.
THE COUNT GAVE ME A RECIPE. CAN YOU MAKE IT?
DREIZEHN IS WITH YOU. YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!
DON'T MAKE A FACE LIKE THAT. I'LL BE BACK NEXT WEEK.
OKAY, WELL, I NEED TO GET GOING.
EDWARD..
OH, COME ON! DREIZEHN'S THE PROBLEM!
AREN'T YOU WORRIED ABOUT LEAVING HIM ALONE WITH ME?
AT LEAST MRS. KELLY IS STILL HERE

AAAH!
AT LEAST I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF NOW
GOOD NIGHT THEN, MISS KAREN.
O-OREIGEHN?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN HERE?!
WHOA.
BUT--
THIS IS A LADY'S ROOM--- GET OUT!
YOU IDIOT!
MY DUTY IS TO HELP YOU--

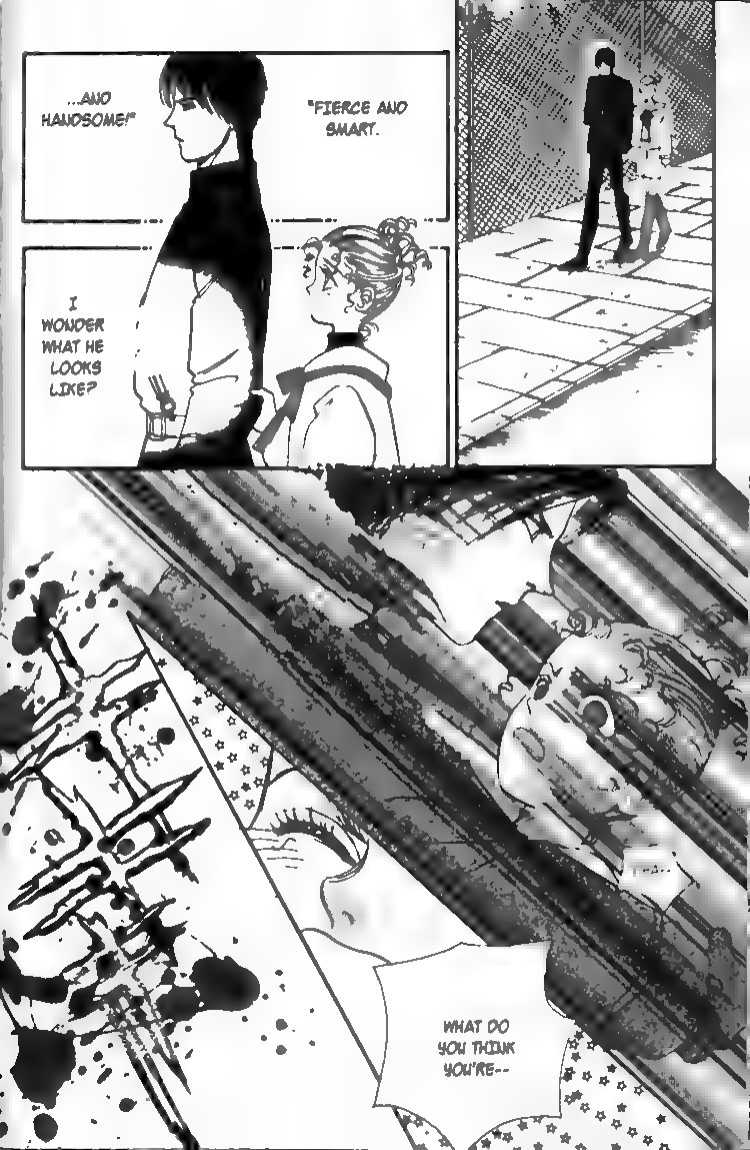

I ASSUMED HE WOULD HAVE BETTER MANNERS.
WHAT WAS HE THINKING?
?
THE GUEST ROOM ON THE FIRST FLOOR IS SET UP JUST FOR YOU.
NOW GET OUT!
...NOTHING MORE THAN A LITTLE GIRL.
TO HIM, MAYBE I'M...
WHAT IN THE WORLD? I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW INSENSITIVE HE IS!
GASP!
AND MAYBE...

..EVEN TO EDWARD..
..I'M JUST HIS COUSIN'S DAUGHTER...
..NOTHING MORE.
I DON'T WANT TO SEEM UNGRATEFUL, BUT I HAVE TO RETURN THE DOG
AND THEN I CAN GET A REAL DOG MAYBE A CUTE LITTLE PUPPY

YES. IS THERE A PROBLEM?
WERE YOU SLEEPING AT THE DOOR THE ENTIRE NIGHT?
OREIGEHN?
GOOD MORNING
BUT...
OH, MISS KAREN...
GOOD MORNING I'VE PREPARED BREAKFAST FOR YOU AND DORA-CHAN.
HERE
PLEASE BE CAREFUL WHERE YOU WALK.
...
SHE CALLED YOU DORA-CHAN. TEE HEE.

THERE WAS A WATER PUDDLE, SO--
WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING?!
IEEEEEE!
KEEP YOUR DISTANCE.
JA.
NEXT TIME THAT HAPPENS, JUST TELL ME!
JA.
HEY, ELLIE, DID YOU SWITCH YOUR PERFUME?
YUP, CAN YOU TELL?
SINCE I CAN'T SEE, MY OTHER SENSES HAVE BECOME WAY MORE SENSITIVE
HEY, THOSE VOICES BELONG TO ELLIE AND AMANDA. HI!
HOW HAVE YOU BEEN?
IS IT OKAY FOR YOU TO BE OUT ON YOUR OWN LIKE THIS?
KAREN?
HEY, KAREN!
OH
BUT IT'S NOT LIKE YOU CAN'T EVER SEE AGAIN, RIGHT?
YEAH-- IT'S SUPPOSED TO HEAL OVER TIME, RIGHT?

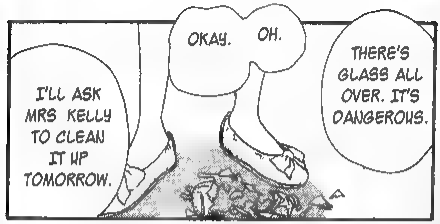
B-BY THE WAY, KAREN...
OH...OH YEAH...
THIS IS DORA-CHAN. HE'S MY--
HE'S SO COOL!
HUH?!
FIERCE!
AND SMART!
AND HANDSOME!
HUH?!
OREIGEHN IS MY BODYGUARD.
R-
REALLY ?


...AND HANDSOME!"
"FIERCE AND SMART.
I WONDER WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE?
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE--

ARE YOU OKAY?
A CAR?
WHAT WAS THAT? DID THAT CAR JUST TRY TO HIT US?!
WHAT ABOUT YOUR PLANS TO GO TO CHINATOWN?
LET'S GO HOME.
NOT TODAY.
WHO KNOWS?
はん
はん

UNTIL THE CRIMINAL IS CAUGHT
OA
I JUST HAVE TO BE PATIENT
WELL THEN GOOD NIGHT, MISS KAREN

THAT'S STRANGE. I WONDER IF MRS. KELLY MISPLACED EVERYTHING...
?!
EVERYTHING SEEMS... OFF...
OR DID SOMEONE COME INTO MY ROOM AND.. ?!
GASP!
OH NO!


OKAY.
OH.
I'LL ASK MRS KELLY TO CLEAN IT UP TOMORROW.
THERE'S GLASS ALL OVER. IT'S DANGEROUS.

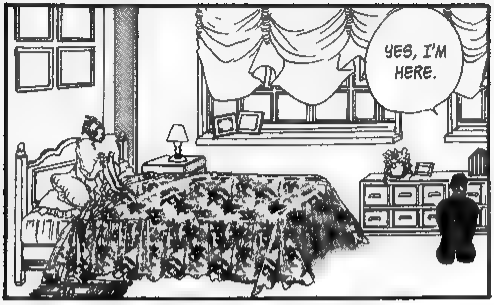
I'M SORRY FOR COMING IN AGAINST YOUR ORDERS .
D--
DORA-CHAN...?

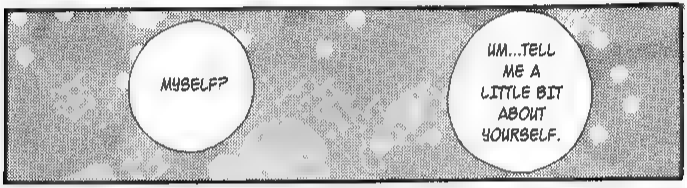
..

ALL RIGHT THEN. GOOD NIGHT.
Y-YES.

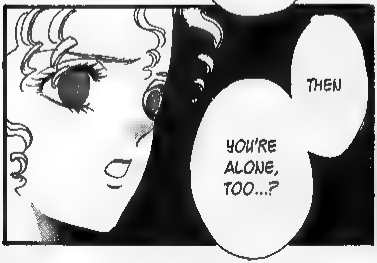
JA

WAIT!
U-UM...
CAN YOU JUST ..
...HANG AROUND FOR A LITTLE BIT?


YES, I'M HERE.
D-DORA-CHAN?


MYSELF?
UM...TELL ME A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOURSELF.

I WAS SENT OUT OF MY COUNTRY BECAUSE OF A REDUCTION IN THE MILITARY.
I HAVE NO FAMILY.


THEN
YOU'RE ALONE, TOO...?

...

YEAH, LIKE WHEN YOU CAME TO AMERICA, OR...
...ABOUT YOUR FAMILY...

UM...
NOT REALLY
BEING ALL ALONE... DO YOU EVER FEEL LONELY?
LONELY?
YES, GO AHEAD.
CAN I TOUCH YOUR FACE?
NOSE..
CHIN, FOREHEAD...
...CHEEKS.
HE REALLY DOES HAVE A FIERCE LOOKING FACE

BOTH OF THEM...
WHAT HAPPENED?
YOUR YOUR EARS!
YOU'RE MISSING HALF YOUR EARS?
CUT?
YES, THIS IS DONE TO ANYONE WHO JOINS THE MILITARY
THEY WERE CUT WHEN I WAS A CHILD.
OH...
THAT'S HORRIBLE!

KAREN?
K--
IT MUST HAVE HURT
DORA-CHAN.
YOU POOR THING.
IT LOOKS SO PAINFUL ...
IT'S IN THE PAST.
IT DOESN'T HURT ANY LONGER. PLEASE, DON'T BE UPSET.
DORA-CHAN.

IT'S OKAY
IT DOESN'T HURT ANYMORE
I'M OKAY.

KAREN, STAY HERE WHILE I GO CHECK IT OUT.
THAT'S MRS. KELLY'S VOICE!
SOMEBODY, HELP!
SHE'S BREATHING.
SHE'S STILL ALIVE.
UH.
GAAAAAAH! DREIZEHN!
!!

OREIZEH!!
A MAN WITH A BEARD?!
KAREN!!
HE'S THE ONE WHO KILLED MY PARENTS!
WHAT?!
EDWARD!
IT WAS YOU!!

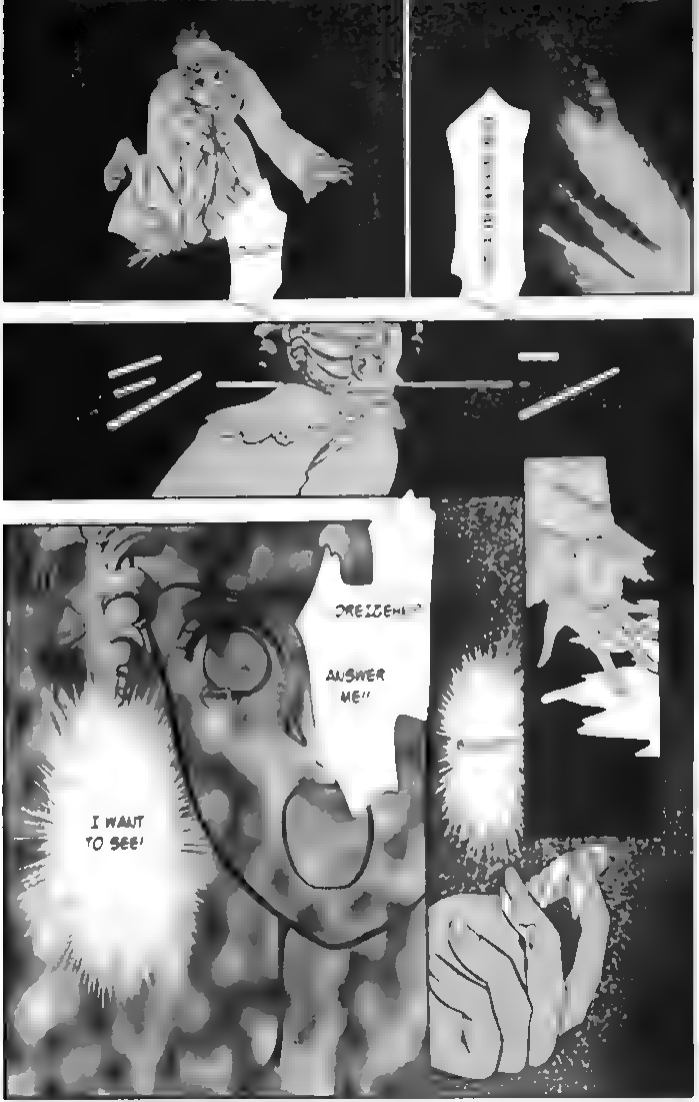
HA, YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD
I DIDN'T SAY A WORD, BUT YOU STILL GOT ME
E-EDWARD...?!
WH-WHY? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE IN CHICAGO RIGHT NOW...
I MADE SURE MRS. KELLY SAW ME IN THIS GETUP BEFORE KNOCKING HER OUT...
YES, OF COURSE. MY ALIBI IS FLAWLESS!
YOUR DISGUISE WAS POINT-LESS!
I KNEW IT WAS YOU AS SOON AS I CAUGHT YOUR SCENT!!

I NEEDED AT LEAST ONE WITNESS TO THE "BEARDED CRIMINAL."
KAREN SCHNEIDER DIED BY THE SAME TWISTED HAND THAT KILLED HER PARENTS..
AND THE INHERITANCE GOES TO ME!
SUCH A PERFECT PLAN! ALL THE LEGAL PAPERWORK'S ALREADY TAKEN CARE OF!
THEN IT WAS

I DIDN'T WANT TO BELIEVE IT!
I HOPED I WAS WRONG! THAT IT WAS A MISTAKE!
LIKE A
WITH EDWARD WHEN I WAS
I COULDN'T STAND LOOKING AT A WORLD WHERE IT WAS TRUE!
YOU COWARD!
LET KAREN GO!!

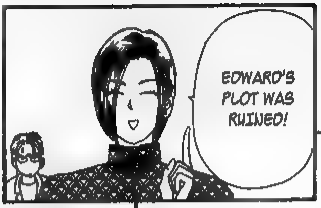
NO! STOP!
WAIT!
YOU LITTLE..
DORA-CHAN, RUN!
GO TO THE POLICE AND TELL THEM EVERYTHING!!
NEIN!
YOU'RE AN ANNOYING DOG. I'LL GET RID OF YOU FIRST.
I CANNOT FOLLOW SUCH ORDERS!!

AHHHH!!
LET ME GO!! YOU
D-DREIGEHN?!
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
GASP!
GAAAHHH!!


PRESIDENT!
ANSWER ME!!
I WANT TO SEE!

I WANT TO SEE YOU!!
OREIGEHN!!

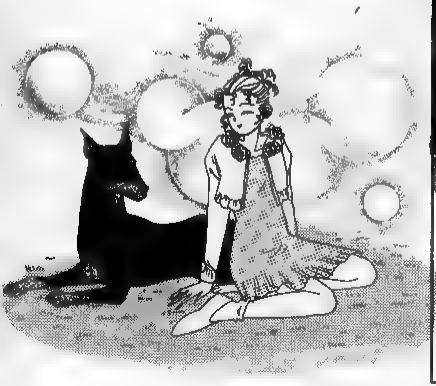
DREIZEHN.
O-DORA-CHAN..



SINCE THAT DAY, HE'S NEVER SPOKEN A WORD, BUT...

DREIZEHN, WHO RISKED HIS OWN LIFE TO PROTECT HIS MASTER, HAS FINALLY RECOVERED FROM HIS WOUNDS...

KAREN'S FIERCE AND HANDSOME BODYGUARD IS STILL EVER AT HER SIDE...



SEE, I TOLD YOU HE'S JUST A NORMAL DOBERMAN

END OF EPISODE 4

PET CATALOG

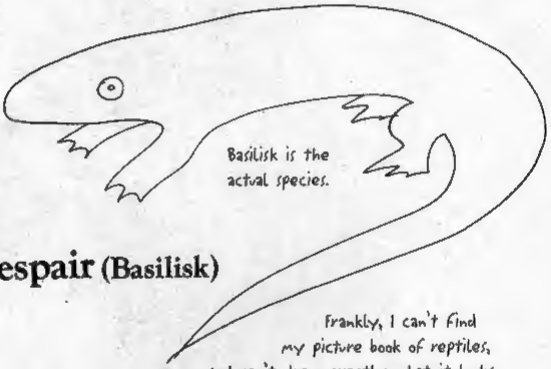
Count D (Unknown)

My impression of Chinatown is that it's a rough and mysterious space somehow immune to reality—a place where impossible things become possible. So let's have the main character live there! This is Count D. I tried to create him in "The Mysterious Reijin (Lady)" style (ha ha), but he just got more and more weird. By episode five, he unmasks...oops, shouldn't I save that for the next volume? I haven't written about the short-tempered detective yet, so let's all hope that volume two gets published in peace!

By the way, the horned Valvertinger rabbit is called Q-chan.

ream (Strelitzia)

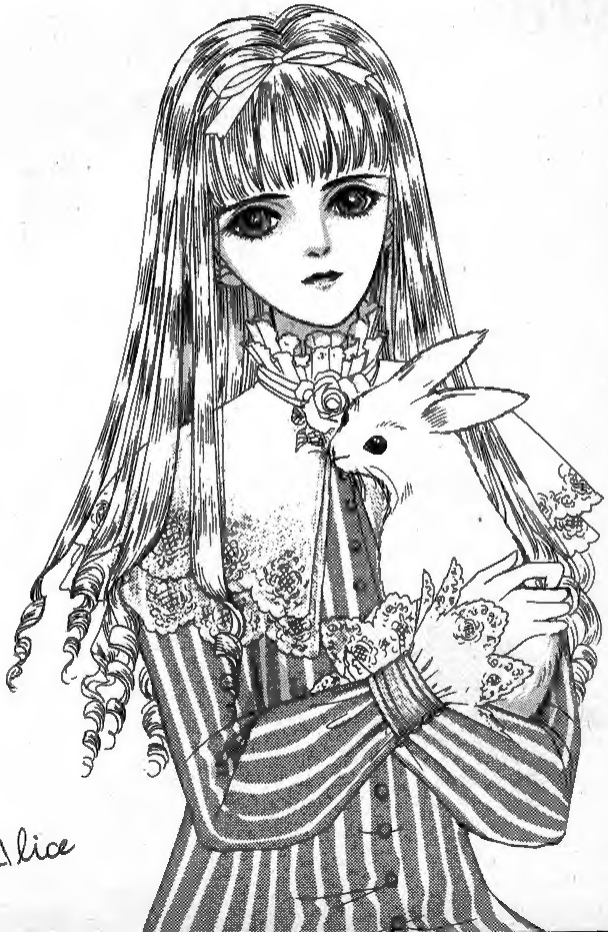
The Japanese name for Strelitzia is "Gokuraku Cho Ka" or "Bird of Paradise," the name of a tropical flower. The outfit is taken from Bali's Legong dance costume. At first I thought, "Perfect! This is it!" and put it on him. But later on as I was drawing it, I couldn't help thinking, "Shoot. This is too much trouble." This episode was told with more gore and splatter than horror.



Despair (Basilisk)

Frankly, I can't find my picture book of reptiles, so I can't draw exactly what it looks like. Ha ha ha... I like reptiles better than insects, but I can't keep one in my house. Speaking of reptiles, I heard Nekojyujisha* had a green iguana. How's Mirori-chan doing? Medusa's costume is in the Erte style. Again, I thought, "Shoot!" in the middle of drawing it.

*another manga writer

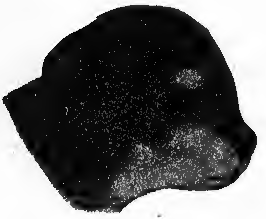

Alice

aughter (Rabbit)

Rabbits are not native to Australia. Europeans brought them in for hunting, but soon their numbers grew so large, they started harming crops. So humans began using chemicals to exterminate them. Before long, there were tons of dead rabbits everywhere. Then the chemicals started affecting the vultures that ate the dead rabbits... It's a true story that sounds like some futuristic horror movie. (I think I saw it on an NHK* special.)

*a Japanese television network

Dreizehn (Doberman)



Dobermans naturally have dangling ears like in the picture at left, but because it makes them look strong and glamorous, their ears are often cut short so they stand up straight. Their tails too. Nowadays, with the animal rights movement, people don't cut Dobermans' ears as much, but I've heard that dog owners tend to shy away from them because they don't think they look like Dobermans.

PREVIEW FOR VOLUME 2

DRAGON: When a common turtle egg is switched with a dragon's, Count D and Detective Orcot take off in pursuit before a Christmas surprise turns into a disaster.

DICE: Luck be a kitten named Lady tonight. Can a brush with Count D turn around the life of a small-time thug?

DELICIOUS: The "fish" Jason Gray just purchased from Count D bears a striking resemblance to his recently drowned wife. A coincidence—or something more?

DESTRUCTION: When Orcot falls asleep on the job, D visits him in a dream to teach him a lesson.

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